

Application No.: 10/771,040
Docket No.: UC0210USNA

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REMARKS***Status of the Application***

This paper is responsive to the Final Office Action, entered in the above referenced pending application.

Claims 1-14 are pending. Claims 15-17 were canceled in an amendment filed in January 2006. The pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,998,045 ("*Chen*"). Applicants respectfully maintain their traverse of this rejection.

Chen discloses light-emitting compositions comprising a copolymer of anthracene and fluorene. Anthracene is a fused, linear, triphenyl compound. The present claims are drawn to homopolymers and copolymers in which the monomers are selected from fluorene, spirofluorene and bridged biphenyl. A copolymer of the claims can be a polymer in which, for example, fluorene and biphenyl monomeric units are combined, or, for example, fluorene monomeric units having different substituents are combined. Please see page 4, lines 5-8 of the application. A polymer may also comprise an *n*-mer of, for example, *n* fluorene units having the same or different substituents. Example 1 shows a trimer having three differently substituted fluorene units.

Accordingly, in the present claims, compositions may include the following:

- (i) Fluorene homopolymer;
- (ii) Fluorene copolymer;
- (iii) Spirofluorene homopolymer;
- (iv) Spirofluorene copolymer;
- (v) Bridged biphenyl homopolymer;
- (vi) Bridged biphenyl copolymer;
- (vii) Fluorene – bridged biphenyl copolymer;
- (viii) Fluorene – spirofluorene copolymer;
- (ix) Spirofluorene – bridged biphenyl copolymer; and

other combinations.

The compositions of *Chen* *must* be fluorene – anthracene copolymers. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has conflated (vii) above, a fluorene – bridged biphenyl copolymer, with a fluorene – anthracene copolymer. This is clearly not possible since biphenyl, by definition, has two phenyl rings, and anthracene, by definition, has three phenyl rings, fused in a consecutive linear arrangement.

None of the exemplary species or sub-genera listed above read on *Chen*. Nor would more complex variants that one could envision for some or all of the above examples.

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Examples (i) through (vi), (viii) and (ix) and their more complex variants clearly do not read on *Chen*. Example (vii) equally clearly does not because anthracene is a specific molecule, a fused triphenyl having a consecutive linear structure. Bridged biphenyl has a structure in which two phenyl rings have a single fused carbon and a bridge of substituent atoms linking the two phenyl rings at two other points, or two substituent chains linking the rings at two points, thus forming a tricyclic structure having two phenyl rings. There is no way possible that this tricyclic system can be configured to be anthracene, which, as noted previously, is consecutively linear fused triphenyl.

For all of the foregoing reasons, *Chen* does not anticipate the claims under review. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that a thorough and complete response to the Final Office Action mailed on April 12, 2006 has been made in this paper and that the above referenced pending application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-14 is therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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